

The Evening Herald.

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A PRAYER FOR THOSE AT WAR.

THE bishop of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of New York, Dr. David B. Green, has published the following prayer for use in the churches of his diocese during the war.

"O God, Who hast made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and Who in Thy Holy Word hast taught us that One is our Father, even God, and that all we are brethren: We pray Thee in this dark hour of international strife that Thou wilt open the eyes of the people, and those who in Thy Name are entrust with the authority of government, to see and understand their right and true relation to Thee, and through Thee to one another. Teach them by Thy Spirit that hatred and violence are not strength, but weakness; that the true safeguarding of a nation is not to be found in weapons of war, but in those eternal principles which make for righteousness and truth and brotherhood and peace. Give to those who shall suffer in the war which is raging now the consolations of Thy grace. Heal the sick; comfort the wounded; minister to the dying, and bind up the broken heart. Bring we pray Thee, to speedy end this international strife, and hasten the time when peace shall flourish out of the earth, and all shall dwell together in unity and love, and war shall be no more. We ask it in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen."

HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

NEWS PAPER speculation in this country as to the length of the European struggle is, of course, for the very good reason that the editors, for the most part, know very little about it all. We have gathered together during the past two weeks a mass of editorial expressions on this subject from the foremost of American editorial writers. A few of them agree that they know nothing about it and that only the war itself in its development will determine the result.

The editor of the struggle announced his opinion that the struggle would be long brief, because modern death-dealing equipment is so terribly effective. The protracted war would wipe mankind off the face of Europe, that it would be extermination if long continued. Yet this matter of modern fighting equipment, if we can judge of events to date, from the censored reports, has not changed the general character of fighting from that of the wars of forty and fifty years ago. Yesterday we were told of the re-taking of Luxembourg Wednesday by the French in a series of bayonet charges and hand to hand struggles. A modern horizon is no more terrible nor more deadly now in the hands of a fighting Frenchman than it was in 1863 in the hands of a Yankee infantryman. Armies have done some amazing and one or two unconfirmed reports of bombs dropping have come in but the aeroplanes and the much described war dirigible seem to have done little if anything in the way of execution. The Germans at Liege massacred and hung themselves against certain death in the good old approved manner in which fighting men have died through all the ages of battle. The principal account of the German army appears to have been done by cavalry just as cavalry always has done the scouting.

One English warship, a small one, has been sunk by a mine. The submarine seem to have done no especially damage; no note in fact than the air craft.

As far as we can tell from the reports we have, up to this time, it is the same old-fashioned variety of hell that war has always been and the personal element is as strongly present as ever.

So who can venture to predict how long this war will continue; how far it will spread over the face of the earth; whether or not this nation can escape involvement in it; where it will end?

Count Witte, the great Russian, says the war "should end" in three months and must end within six months, because the nations will be

exhausted by that time. The French war minister says his people to prepare for a year or two years or more of constant struggle; since this is a struggle to the death." The Kaiser himself in one of his remarkable addresses to his people, has proclaimed the conflict one of extermination of nations. Nations are not wiped out in a day.

As we sit in our proud isolation today, not one of us in America can tell, any more than the wise men of Europe can tell, where this unparalleled outbreak of primeval human passions will end or who or what will be swept into the vortex.

IT DOES NOT GET VOTES.

IN HIS breadth and eloquence of view, in his grasp of all vital national questions, Senator Root of New York has few equals in this country today. When he delivers a public utterance it is heard with respectful attention by thinking men of all parties; and it generally is well worthy of all the attention it gets. In his keynote speech to the Republican state convention in New York the other day—a convention which, by the way, had its first experience as a party organization without power to do anything but listen to speeches—Senator Root among other attacks upon Democratic policies charged to the administration the evolution of the graduated income tax by which, with a high exemption, he said vast sums of money were being drawn from the rich communities of the eastern states and spent in the development of the raw western states. As examples he pointed to the \$35,000,000 voted to build the Alaskan railroad, and the \$30,000,000 which the house voted for good roads, and which he said were indications of a time to come when billions would be taken from the east and spent on the west in this manner.

Whether the Democratic party may claim to be entirely responsible for the income tax or not; and whether the senator's statement really an injustice or not, it is reasonably certain that as a campaign argument against the Democratic party, and the Wilson administration, it will get no votes. The Alaskan railroad project is one of the most popular public projects this government ever has undertaken. The appropriation of money for good roads is even more popular.

The very rich men, whose increase, earned and unearned, is over taxed, may realize the injustice of taking money from the rich, developed sections of our country and with it developing the undeveloped; it is an injustice. But the masses of the people in the same communities with these swollen fortunes are not likely to be impressed by it at all. It is, indeed, much more likely to be as popular with the masses of the people of the industrial communities of the east as with the farming and mining and livestock communities of the west.

And it does seem that in viewing as an industry this use of the taxing power to take from the vast fortunes built up from the rapid development of American industry, and use of the revenue so obtained in development of our resources for the common good, Senator Root is not exhibiting his usual statesmanlike breadth of view.

THE WAR'S EFFECT ON RUSSIA.

ALLONGING for the censorship through which it must have passed, and the fact that it appeared in an English newspaper, the text of a letter printed in the London Daily Chronicle on Wednesday and telegraphed to this country by the Associated Press presents an interesting picture of change in popular sentiment and the miraculous creation of patriotism in Russia as a result of the great war.

"It is impossible to relate a tithe of the amazing things that have happened in Russia in the last ten days," says the letter, written in St. Petersburg on August 12th. It continues: "Russia is not recognizable, or rather that hunting beauty of Russia, which those of us who live here groaningly and often sadly feel and love, has suddenly shone forth radiantly from out of the heavy clouds of failure and defeat that have hidden it for so many years. Russia is full of moral energy. She has never displayed it with the same vigor as now at any point of her history. Russia feels herself for once to be morally in the right.

"Russia's internal condition was deplorable," says the correspondent; "the Poles, Finns and Jews were oppressed by the government's policy of oppression. The duma was divided and helpless. Strikes were spreading. There were serious riots in St. Petersburg."

The writer adds: "Few Russians want to fight for the sake of service, but when it became clear that the Austrian move was only to preclude German attack on an apparently helpless and demoralized Russia, the feeling changed in an instant.

"The general mobilization made all

Russia realize the situation. The peasants, the workmen and the strike leaders of the week before, clerks, students, teachers and lawyers—all dropped their work without a murmur and joined the ranks.

"I had half expected mobilization in the country districts like ours which occurred during the Russo-Japan war, but friends from the south, the west and the east declare that all Russia is as one man. Everywhere the people are going to war, 'to die for our country' as the peasants say.

"The drunk shops were closed and all went soberly and sternly, expecting no easy victories and prepared for a long and hard struggle.

"For the first time in his reign the Russian emperor is cut off now from those German influences that led him on continually to ruinous robbing. His majesty came out on the balcony of his palace to greet an immense throng of his people.

"The duma gave striking expression to the nation's feeling. The bacterial reactionary Pourishkevitch actually shook hands with his bitter enemy, the cadre leader Mikayev. Representatives of various nationalities, the Poles, the Letts, the Lithuanians, the Russian Germans and, most striking of all, the Jews, stood up and declared whatever they had suffered they would try to make their grievances in this hour of great trial and fight side by side with the Russian people. Many deputies were moved to tears."

**WARRING NATIONS
MUST HAVE CHILEAN
PRODUCT TO FIGHT**

WHERE is all the raw material coming from for the vast amount of powder that will be needed in the great European war? That is a question that South America can answer, according to a news note in the July number of the Monthly Bulletin of the Pan American Union. Washington, D. C.

Strangely, to say, the one country in the world which in times of peace supplies the greatest agent to increase productivity of the earth, will now be called upon for "identically the same agent to supply the means of destruction." That country is the republic of Chile, and the product which has now assumed such tremendous importance is the nitrate of soda which it supplies to the world. The nitrate fields of Chile form a wonderful asset in the national economy, and this news note states that the government will sell at public auction, on August 10, in the city of Santiago, certain nitrate fields located in the province of Tarapaca, thus opening up for development additional areas containing this remarkable product.

The greatest use in recent years of Chilean nitrate has been "to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before," and in this capacity it has been a blessing to humanity. The use of nitrate of soda as a fertilizer, though very general now, has been known to our civilization less than a century. The story goes that an old Scotchman who lived near the present nitrate fields about 1816, spread some sand containing white crystals over part of his garden. Things potted in this particular sand grew wonderfully. Samples of the sand were sent to Scotland for analysis and the nature of the substance and its value as a fertilizer was soon established. According to tradition, however, centuries before the Spanish conquest, the Incas of Peru and some of the natives of Bolivia knew of the fertilizing value of the white crystals and are supposed to have known how to produce them from the soda manure.

During the trial over 200 witnesses

Great Trials of History**TRIAL OF JOHN H. Surratt.**

IN THE round up of the many persons accused of being implicated in the murder of President Lincoln, the most sought after of the men who had made good their escape was John H. Surratt. A search was at once started for his apprehension, but he made his way to Canada. While his mother was undergoing the torture of her trial by concealed in the house of a friendly priest some forty miles from Montreal.

Surratt remained in hiding in Canada until he was able, under an assumed name, to sail for Liverpool from Quebec. He traveled unobserved to London, Paris and finally to Rome, where in the spring of the following year, under the name of Watson, he enlisted in the Papal Zouaves and was sent on garrison duty to a post near the Neapolitan frontier.

There Surratt might have remained unknown until the end of his service had he not accidentally met another relative of the same company who was an American and who had known him in Maryland. He reported his discovery to the American minister to Italy, Rutherford B. Hayes, and on November 2, 1866, "Zouave Watson" was metamorphosed from a soldier into a prisoner of state. He was taken to the military prison at Rome. From here he made his escape and boarded a steamer for Alexandria, Egypt, which port he reached on the 27th, and the American consul there being apprised of his coming, he was finally intercepted and held to await the arrival of a United States vessel to carry him to his country.

The United States corvette Swatara touched at Alexandria on December 2d, and when it departed it carried Surratt to the United States to stand trial. On February 21 the vessel cast anchor abreast of the Washington navy yard. There, in sight of the prison in which his mother was tried and condemned and under which she lay buried, Surratt, by order of the secretary of state, was delivered into the hands of the civil authorities.

The district attorney at once began to prepare for his trial. The trial opened on June 10, 1867, and lasted until August 11, sixty-two days. During the trial there was a general impression that Surratt would be able to prove an alibi, so far as his being in Washington at or near the time of the assassination, but this was not the case. For a number of men swore that they had seen him in the city on the day of the murder.

During the trial over 200 witnesses

were examined. This testimony was concluded on July 22, when District Attorney E. C. Carrington addressed the jury. Richard T. Merrick, the junior counsel of the defendant, followed, creating a profound sensation by his impassioned vindication of Mrs. Surratt, the mother.

On Saturday, August 3, Edwards

Pierrepont began the closing argument for the United States—a laborious effort rendered intolerably tedious by copious readings of the testimony, decorated with lengthy quotations from the Bible, and suffused throughout with a pious lecture.

On August 7 the charge was given to the jury. The jury retired at noon on the same day and remained in seclusion until 1 o'clock on Saturday, the 10th, when the foreman came in and announced that the jurors "stood precisely now as when they first sat, waited eight to four for the prisoners" and could not possibly make a verdict.

The jury was thereupon dis-

charged against the protest of the prisoner, who was remanded to the custody of the marshal. The idea of another trial, it is probable, was never seriously entertained by the government. Under a recent act of congress another jury could not have been selected before the ensuing February, and, for the sake of appearances, the defendant was kept in jail in the meantime, and subsequently the case was set down for the 24th of that month. On June 22, 1868, the defendant was released on bail and three months later the indictment was "nolle prossed."

The counsel defending the prisoner during the trial were General Metcalf and John G. Carlisle. That so prominent an accomplice in the murderer of the ever-to-be lamented Lincoln should have been allowed to walk the earth a free man, without arousing an overwhelming outburst of popular wrath is explicable alone on the hypothesis that the public at large shared in the misgivings of the authorities as to the strength of their case. Had Surratt been caught in time to be tried by the military commission nothing could have saved him from the fate of his mother. Conversely, had Mary E. Surratt been spared to be tried by a civil tribunal she never would have met the death of shame. As the decision of the supreme court of the United States made void the proceedings of the military commission as matter of law, so the discharge of her son reversed its condemnation on the merits of the case.

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It is certainly awkward to be talking to a charming girl in her own home, too, and to discover that you are stuck to the chair, and that there is a furious heat coming up from the register, until in desperation you yell for the fire brigade to the terror of the young lady. See "All a Mistake." Watch for date.

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Lost Opportunities

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London, Aug. 22.—The British Red Cross society can call upon 60,000 persons, many of them highly trained, to undertake field ambulance and hospital work. If there is a serious demand for their services it is estimated that at least 50 per cent of this number will obey the call.

The society is the body officially recognized by the war department, and acts under the direction of the admiralty and war office, in conjunction with the hospital staff. Its present organization and status is due to the lessons of the South African war, when various independent nursing